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For Immediate Release  
April 13, 2004

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## **Governor strikes down another opportunity to promote job growth in Michigan**

### *Governor's lack of support for manufacturing industry disappointing*

**LANSING** — By vetoing Senate Bill 841 — the Legislature's second attempt at creating a Michigan manufacturing "czar" — the governor is showing she believes in a double standard, Sen. Wayne Kuipers, R-Holland, said today.

"I really don't understand why the governor presses President Bush to create this position for the federal government but then stops the same thing for her own state," said Kuipers, the bill sponsor. "This smacks of presidential politics and that's a shame."

The veto is the third one involving a manufacturing "czar" and a small-business "czar." They would work with the state's bureaucracies to battle red tape.

"The Legislature has been leading the effort to boost Michigan's economy and create more job opportunities by keeping taxes and onerous regulation in check," said Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming. "It's unfortunate we're not seeing the same kind of leadership coming from the governor's office."

SB 841 would have put a "czar" position within the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth to focus on creating and retaining manufacturing jobs. The position is needed to ensure the regulatory and economic development arms of all state departments are doing what they can do help the manufacturing industry.

Michigan's manufacturing industry has been hit hard by the economic downturn and sometimes unfair global competition. Kuipers said the state must provide manufacturers with the opportunities they need to survive. Unfortunately, the governor has now vetoed two bills that would have provided help.

"Addressing the needs of Michigan workers requires more than pep talks and finger pointing," Kuipers said. "It requires action and a commitment to doing what's right for Michigan."

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**Audio comments from Sen. Wayne Kuipers on the veto are available  
on the Senate Majority Audiowire at [www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire).**